Revision of pay scales of Income Tax Inspectors

1428. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to revise the pay scales of Income Tax Inspectors, ITOs, etc. in pursuance of CAT's decision is under consideration of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) by when the pay scales are likely to be revised; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Reduction in rural credit

1429. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks reduced credit for rural areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Bank has sharply cut down their rural lending in the last two years;

(c) whether any review has been done of this deliberate reduction of rural credit by such nationalised banks;

(d) the extent of rural credit given by Andhra Bank during the last two financial years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that rural credit needs are met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL):-(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has repoted that lending to agriculture by public sector banks, including nationalised banks, have been increasing year by year as indicated below:

(Rs. Crores)

Sector	March, 2001	March, 2002
Total Priority Sector Advances	146546	171185
Total Advances to Agriculture	53685	63083